



LAHIVE  
&  
COCKFIELD  
L L P

COUNSELLORS AT LAW  
28 STATE STREET  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109-1784  
TELEPHONE (617) 227-7400  
FAX (617) 742-4214  
lc@lahive.com

JOHN A. LAHIVE, JR. (1928-1997)  
THOMAS V. SMURZYNSKI  
RALPH A. LOREN  
GIULIO A. DeCONTI, JR.  
ELIZABETH A. HANLEY  
AMY BAKER MANDRAGOURAS  
ANTHONY A. LAURENTANO  
KEVIN J. CANNING  
JANE E. REMILLARD  
DeANN FORAN SMITH  
DEBRA J. MILASINCIC, Ph.D.  
DAVID J. RIKKERS  
DAVID R. BURNS  
JOHN S. CURRAN  
SEAN D. DETWEILER  
MEGAN E. WILLIAMS, Ph.D.

LISA DIROCCO TYNER  
HATHAWAY P. RUSSELL \*  
MARIA LACCOTRIPE ZACHARAKIS, Ph.D.  
MERIDETH C. ARNOLD  
DANIELLE L. HERRITT  
EUIHOON LEE \*\*  
MANEESH GULATI

SENIOR COUNSEL  
JAMES E. COCKFIELD

OF COUNSEL  
JEREMIAH LYNCH  
WILLIAM A. SCOFIELD, JR.  
SIBLEY P. REPPERT  
JEANNE M. DiGIORGIO  
CYNTHIA L. KANIK, Ph.D.  
JOHN D. LANZA

PATENT AGENTS  
THEODORE R. WEST  
CYNTHIA M. SOROOS  
PETER W. DINI, Ph.D.  
JONATHAN M. SPARKS, Ph.D.  
ANDRINA WILLIAMS ZINK

TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS  
CATHERINE M. BISHOP  
JACOB G. WEINTRAUB  
CRISTIN E. HOWLEY, Ph.D.  
JILL ANN MELLO, Ph.D.  
DEBORAH L. NAGLE, Ph.D.  
ANNE JACQUELINE WIZEMAN, Ph.D.  
BRIAN C. TRINQUE, Ph.D.  
CHRISTOPHER R. COWLES, Ph.D.

\* Admitted in TX only  
\*\* Admitted in CT only

December 2, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/601020  
For: *NOVEL HEPATITIS C VIRUS PEPTIDES AND USES THEREOF*  
Inventors: Branch, Andrea D. *et al.*  
Filed: June 20, 2003  
Our Ref. No.: RII-003CPUSCN

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith for filing in the above-identified application the following:

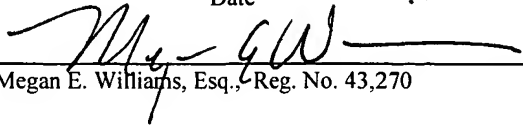
1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form 1449; and
3. A Return Postcard.

No additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, please charge any necessary fees in connection with the enclosed statement to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080. For this purpose, a duplicate of this sheet is attached.

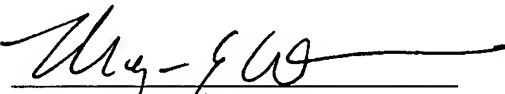
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December 2, 2003

Date

  
Megan E. Williams, Esq., Reg. No. 43,270

Respectfully submitted,  
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

  
Megan E. Williams, Esq.  
Registration No. 43,270  
Attorney for Applicants



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Branch, Andrea D. *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/601020

Filed: June 20, 2003

For: *NOVEL HEPATITIS C VIRUS PEPTIDES AND  
USES THEREOF*

Attorney Docket No.: RII-003CPUSCN

Group Art Unit: 1648

Examiner: D. Wortman

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

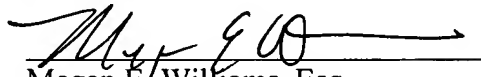
Certificate of First Class Mailing (37 CFR §1.8(a))

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December 2, 2003

Date of Signature and of Mail Deposit

By:

  
Megan E. Williams, Esq.  
Registration No. 43,270  
Attorney for Applicants

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

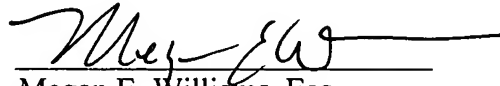
Dear Sir:

For the Examiner's convenience in reviewing this continuation application, Applicants submit a consolidated PTO Form 1449, listing all references cited during the prosecution of the parent application. The present application is a Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/719277, filed April 13, 2001 (Atty. Docket No. RII-003CPUS). All references listed on the enclosed PTO Form 1449 have been previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the prior application, and, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the references are not enclosed but will be provided upon request.

This statement is not to be interpreted as a representation that the cited publications are material, that an exhaustive search has been conducted, or that no other relevant information exists. Nor shall the citation of any publication herein be construed *per se* as a representation that such publication is prior art. Moreover, Applicants understand that the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited publications.

Under 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(3), no additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this disclosure. If, however, a first Office Action on the merits issues in this application bearing a mailing date prior to the date of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge the appropriate fee as required under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080.

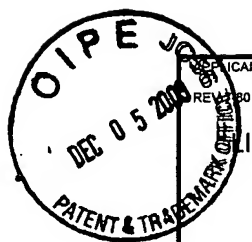
Respectfully submitted,  
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

  
Megan E. Williams, Esq.  
Registration No. 43,270  
Attorney for Applicants

28 State Street  
Boston, MA 02109  
(617) 227-7400

Date: December 2, 2003

GAD/MEW/kvj  
Enclosures



APPLICANT FACSIMILE OF FORM PTO-1449 REV. 12-90		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY DOCKET NO <b>RII-003CPUSCN</b>	SERIAL NO. <b>10/601020</b>
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)			APPLICANT <b>Branch, Andrea D. et al.</b>	
			FILING DATE <b>June 20, 2003</b>	GROUP <b>1648</b>

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A1	5,350,671	09/94	Houghton <i>et al.</i>	435	5	
	A2	5,443,965	08/95	Reyes <i>et al.</i>	435	693	
	A3	5,728,520	03/98	Weiner <i>et al.</i>	435	5	
	A4	5,840,839	11/98	Wang <i>et al.</i>	530	325	
	A5	6,027,729	02/00	Houghton <i>et al.</i>	424	228.1	
	A6	6,054,264	04/00	Chien <i>et al.</i>	435	5	
	A7	6,074,846	06/00	Ralston <i>et al.</i>	435	69.3	
	A8	6,150,087	11/00	Chien	435	5	
	A9	6,171,782	01/01	Houghton <i>et al.</i>	435	5	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	A10	WO 94/25601 A2,A3	11/94	WO				
	A11	WO 96/05315 A2,A3	02/96	WO				
	A12	WO 96/40227 A1	12/96	WO				

## OTHERS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	A13	Bullock, T.N.J. <i>et al.</i> "Ribosomal scanning past the primary initiation codon as a mechanism for expression of CTL epitopes encoded in alternative reading frames," <i>J. Exp. Med.</i> , 184:1319-29 (1996).
	A14	Feucht, H.-H. <i>et al.</i> "Study on Reliability of Commercially Available Hepatitis C Virus Antibody Tests" <i>Journal of Clinical Microbiology</i> 33(3):620-624 (March 1995).
	A15	Ina, Y. <i>et al.</i> "Reduction of synonymous substitutions in the core protein gene of hepatitis C virus," <i>J. Mol. Evol.</i> , 38:50-56 (1994).
	A16	Lo, S.-Y. <i>et al.</i> "Comparative studies of the core gene products of two different hepatitis C virus isolates: two alternative forms determined by a single amino acid substitution." <i>Virology</i> 199(1):124-31(1994 Feb. 15).
	A17	Lo, S.-Y. <i>et al.</i> "Differential subcellular localization of hepatitis C virus core gene products." <i>Virology</i> 213(2):455-61(1995 Nov. 10).
	A18	Lo, S.-Y. <i>et al.</i> "Interaction between hepatitis C virus core protein and E1 envelope protein." <i>J. Virol.</i> 70(8):5177-82 (1996 Aug.).
	A19	Malarkannan, S. <i>et al.</i> "Presentation of out-of-frame peptide/MHC class I complexes by a novel translation initiation mechanism." <i>Immunity</i> 10(6):681-90 (1999 Jun.).
	A20	Ray, B.R. <i>et al.</i> "Hepatitis C virus core protein cooperates with ras and transforms primary rat embryo fibroblasts to tumorigenic phenotype." <i>J. Virol.</i> 70(7):4438-43 (1996 Jul).

Examiner	Date Considered
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

